

Stories that Matter | November 2026

Africa

Confederation of African Fashion targets USD 500 Billion Fashion Economy by 2036

The Confederation of African Fashion (CAFA) says it is targeting growth in Africa's fashion economy from an estimated USD 60 billion to USD 500 billion by 2036, as it pushes for stronger local manufacturing, investment and market access.

The organisation outlined its industry development agenda at CANEX WKND 2026, held in Lagos. Highlighting its long-term ambition, CAFA President, Aare Prof. Lai Labode, said the organisation's work on industry standards, intellectual property protection and distribution was contributing to its goal of building a more competitive African fashion economy.

"These efforts contribute to its ambition to grow Africa's fashion economy from an estimated USD 60 billion to USD 500 billion by 2036," he said.

Labode said Africa had considerable fashion talent, raw materials and an established community of designers, artisans and entrepreneurs, but gaps in textile processing, manufacturing infrastructure and production capacity continued to limit the industry's growth.

To address these challenges, CAFA identified its Seed to Wear Programme as a 10-pillar roadmap for strengthening the African fashion value chain.

The programme covers areas, including cotton cultivation, fibre processing, textile production, fashion design, financing and distribution.

Source: Punch Nigeria